

Attorney Docket No.: 71084

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**DEC 14 2004**

Applicant : ABELS et al.  
Serial No. : 10/632,017  
Confirm. No. : 9343  
Filed : July 31, 2003  
For : BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT  
Art Unit : 3679  
Examiner : Ernesto Garcia  
Dated : December 14, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.136 (a)**

Sir:

The Office Action dated July 15, 2004 provided for a shortened statutory period for response of three months.

The shortened statutory period expired October 15, 2004.

Since the attached response is being filed within the second month pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) Applicant attaches a Credit Card Payment Form and respectfully requests the Examiner to charge the appropriate petition fee of \$450.00 (fee code 1252).

Respectfully submitted  
for Applicant(s),

By:

  
John James McGlew

Reg. No.: 31,903

For: MCGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:tf  
71084.9

Enclosed: Credit Card Payment Form

DATED: December 14, 2004  
SCARBOROUGH STATION  
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827  
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO  
OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

Enclosed: Petition for Two Month Extension of Time  
DATED: December 14, 2004  
SCARBOROUGH STATION  
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827  
(914) 941-5600

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0410.